

MHCP provider news and updates

March 17 – March 30, 2020

Systems announcements

Watch this space for information about MN-ITS availability, technical information and other systems notifications.

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) supplemental payment processing delayed

CCBHC supplemental payment processing has been delayed due to a software update to our Secure File Transfer Protocol. We are working to resolve it and CCBHC supplemental payments for fee-for-service claim dates Jan. 30 to Feb. 27, 2020, have been rescheduled for Apr. 14, 2020. No further action is required by providers. (pub. 3/30/20)

Webpage devoted to waivers and modifications to Minnesota Health Care Programs requirements during COVID-19 pandemic

Executive orders signed by Gov. Tim Walz grant the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) temporary authority to waive or modify administrative and regulatory requirements so that DHS and its partners can continue to provide essential programs and services to Minnesotans safely and without excessive delay during the COVID-19 pandemic.

See the [Waivers and modifications](#) webpage for information about waivers and modifications in effect, including those pending federal approval and changes made by the DHS commissioner under existing authority. (pub. 3/27/2020)

Health Behavior Assessment and Intervention claim denials to be reprocessed

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) recently discovered that some mental health provider types were inadvertently left off of the new Health Behavior Assessment and Intervention procedure codes that became effective Jan. 1, 2020. This caused claims to incorrectly deny. The system was corrected Mar. 12, 2020.

The provider types affected were licensed independent clinical social workers, licensed marriage and family therapists, licensed professional clinic counselors and licensed psychologists.

The procedure codes affected were 96156, 96158, 96159, 96164, 96165, 96167, 96168, 961470 and 96171.

We will reprocess all claims with dates of service on or after Jan. 1, 2020, submitted before the system correction date of Mar. 12, 2020. Providers do not need to resubmit claims. These claims will appear on the Mar. 31, 2020, remittance advice. (pub. 3/26/20)

Diabetic testing supply program change

Therapeutic continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) systems that have only been a covered service when provided and billed by durable medical equipment (DME) providers using codes K0553 and K0554 will be included in the pharmacy point-of-sale preferred diabetic testing supply program beginning Apr. 1, 2020. Preferred therapeutic CGM systems will still be covered and may be billed by enrolled pharmacy providers using National Drug Codes. Non-preferred CGM

systems will still require prior authorization and be subject to the non-preferred diabetic testing supply criteria.
(pub. 3/26/20)

DHS submitted an 1135 waiver to CMS for flexibility to respond to COVID-19

The State has submitted [a waiver](#) to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to begin the process of requesting a broad range of temporary flexibility the Department of Human Services can use if necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 1135 waiver and subsequent requests for more specific authorizations will help Minnesota deal with changing health, safety, workforce and infrastructure needs created by the public health emergency.

The submission of the 1135 waiver begins the process to gain necessary federal approvals to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. More waivers and amendments will be coming. DHS will keep you updated on the status of these federal approvals. (pub 3/25/20)

COVID-19 short-term emergency funding grants

The Minnesota Legislature approved \$200 million for health care grants to support costs related to planning for, preparing for or responding to an outbreak of COVID-19. \$50 million of this funding is available for short-term emergency funding grants to provide cash flow relief to health care organizations to cover their highest priority needs over the next two to eight weeks.

This process is fast-moving. You can find the short-term emergency funding grant application form on the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) [COVID-19 Response Funding webpage](#).

Applications are due by **midnight**, Wednesday Mar. 25.
Grant applications will be reviewed beginning Thursday, Mar. 26.

If you have questions about the grant application process, email MDH at COVIDgrantapplication.MDH@state.mn.us.

If you have questions about the COVID-19 Response Funding, email MDH at COVIDgrantinfo.MDH@state.mn.us.
(pub. 3/24/20)

Electronic or digital signatures not currently accepted

We have received a number of questions from providers about electronic signatures for provider enrollment documents. Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) does not accept electronic or digital signatures on provider enrollment related documentation at this time. An electronic signature, or e-signature, refers to data in electronic form (for example, an electronic symbol). A digital signature is generated using DocuSign or other software. Neither electronic nor digital signatures are permitted.

You are permitted to print the required MHCP document, sign it and scan or take a picture of the document to send back to your employers or credentialing staff for submission to Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) Provider Eligibility and Compliance (PEC). PEC is required to ensure authenticity and to be sure that a signer can't deny that a signature belongs to that person.

DHS may be reviewing this more closely at a later date to determine if electronic or digital signatures can be accepted, but in the meantime, please note that timely filing guidelines allow providers to bill up to one year from original date of service. Please refer to the [Enrollment with Minnesota Health Care Programs](#) webpage and ensure individual providers are qualified to provide services. We encourage providers to continue to provide necessary services. Please complete MHCP provider enrollment documents and get required signatures and submit them to us as quickly as possible. It is important that the provider maintain a record of services they provide, including the date. (pub. 3/24/20, rev. 3/25/20)

Governor, Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) suspend certain licensing regulations

Gov. Tim Walz issued [Executive Order 20-12](#) Mar. 20, 2020, and DHS Commissioner Jodi Harpstead has suspended or modified certain licensing requirements and activities until May 1, 2020, to allow greater flexibility to comply with recommendations from the Minnesota Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. These modifications ensure the best interests of your clients and communities are met.

Read the [COVID-19 update regarding Minnesota Department of Human Services \(DHS\) licensing](#) message to find out more about DHS suspending or modifying most licensing enforcement activity. (pub 3/24/20)

Telehealth services during COVID-19 pandemic

We've had many questions regarding offering telemedicine while we are in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are working to get clarification around the expanded use of telemedicine while complying with state and federal laws. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services broadened access to telehealth services for Medicare beneficiaries, but we do not yet have any detailed information about Medicaid (Medical Assistance) services.

As you know, changes have evolved quickly. We will provide new information as soon as we get it. Watch the Provider news and updates and the [DHS COVID-19](#) webpages for information. (pub. 3/19/20)

Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) to follow Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines for 2019-Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) codes and billing

CMS has developed an additional code for coronavirus lab tests effective Apr. 1, 2020. See the [CMS Develops Additional Code for Coronavirus Lab Tests](#) CMS newsroom webpage for code information. Beginning Apr. 1, 2020, providers may submit claims for tests performed on or after Feb. 4, 2020.

The American Medical Association (AMA) also approved a unique CPT code effective Mar. 13, 2020. See the AMA's [New CPT Code Announced to Report Novel Coronavirus Test](#) press release. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued coding guidelines for COVID-19. See the CDC's [ICD-10-CM Official Coding Guidelines - Supplement \(PDF\)](#) for more information.

We follow CMS and CDC guidelines and we are working on updating our system to be ready for claims submitted beginning Apr. 1, 2020. Continue to monitor this webpage for updates.

Additional COVID-19 resources

- [Minnesota Department of Health](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [CMS Newsroom](#)

(pub.3/18/20)

Follow universal precautions when performing job functions

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) encourages Personal Care Assistance (PCA) provider agencies and people using PCA services to remind workers about the importance of following universal precautions to keep illnesses from spreading. It is best practice to follow these instructions not only during the COVID-19 pandemic, but for all work situations. Watch the [universal precautions](#) training module we prepared to support agencies in the effort to keep people healthy. (pub. 3/18/20)

Free customized support for Home and community-based services (HCBS) providers

Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) has contracted with STAR Services to provide free customized support to HCBS providers. The customized support will be given to the providers selected and will focus on HCBS settings topic areas. For more information and to apply, see the [DHS launches free customized support for HCBS providers](#) AASD and DSD eList announcement. (pub. 3/10/20)

Off-campus provider-based hospital department claims with G0463 and modifier PO that apply a site-neutral reduction will be reprocessed

Calendar year (CY) 2019 claims with procedure code G0463 modified with PO (Services, procedures and/or surgeries provided at off-campus provider-based outpatient departments) that applied a site-neutral reduction will be reprocessed to allow 100 percent of the Ambulatory Payment Classification (APC) allowable. The CY 2019 reprocessed claims will be reported on your Mar. 17, 2020, remittance advice. See the [CMS-1717-FC Fact Sheet](#) for more information.

Minnesota Health Care Programs has identified the site-neutral reduction is not being applied for dates of service on or after Jan. 1, 2020. We are working to correct this issue. We will reprocess the CY 2020 claims to apply a site-neutral reduction of 40 percent of the APC allowable after the issue is corrected. We will announce remittance advice dates after they are determined. Refer to [CMS MLN Matters MM11605](#) for more information. (pub. 3/10/20)

Encourage your staff and clients to participate in the 2020 census

Minnesota communities receive over \$15 billion from the federal government every year based on the census count. We are asking providers to encourage their staff and clients to participate in the 2020 census. Every home should receive an invitation to complete the census by Census Day, Apr. 1, 2020.

Here are links to resources you may find helpful.

- [We Count Minnesota \(PDF\)](#) outlines federal funding and census employment opportunities.
- [Census 101: What You Need to Know \(PDF\)](#) provides general information about the 2020 census.
- [How the 2020 Census will invite everyone to respond \(PDF\)](#) explains how households will be contacted and how they can respond.

For more information on the 2020 census, visit the [Counting Every Minnesotan – Census Day is April 1, 2020](#) website. (pub. 3/4/20)

4 procedure codes to be cost avoided beginning Mar. 20, 2020

Four procedure codes will be cost avoided for dates of service beginning on or after Mar. 20, 2020.

The cost-avoided procedure codes are:

- H0045
- S5130
- S5150
- S5151

There has been a correction in regards to procedure code T2003 that was previously identified to be cost avoided. This change will no longer take effect for this procedure code and it was removed from the list.

Providers who bill using these procedure codes need to follow Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) billing policies and report third-party liability (TPL) insurance as applicable. If the member has TPL and it is not reported on their claim, the claim will deny.

For information about cost avoidance and billing Medicare and TPL, see the [Medicare and Other Insurance](#) section of the MHCP provider manual. (pub. 2/19/20, rev. 3/27/20)

Early Intensive Development and Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI) new online training course required

Cultural responsiveness in autism spectrum disorder (ASD) services is a new online training course **required** for all EIDBI providers. It is an introductory-level course that provides an overview and strategies for culturally responsive practices when providing services to people with ASD and related conditions. The course will increase your awareness and sensitivity to the needs of ethnically diverse communities and recognize the role cultural responsiveness plays in providing quality care.

The course is **required** for all EIDBI providers and **recommended** for the following audiences:

- Lead agencies
- Tribal nations
- Managed care organizations
- Providers who conduct assessments, evaluations or implement intervention with people with ASD or related conditions
- Stakeholders interested in autism EIDBI services

This course is available any time and can be found on [TrainLink](#) by clicking Disability Services, Find a Course and entering the course name.

Additional details are available on the [Individual EIDBI provider trainings](#) webpage. Email asd.dhs@state.mn.us if you have questions about the course. (pub. 2/19/20)

Managed Care Organization (MCO) contact list for Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) providers

A reminder that you can find MCO contact information on the [MCO contacts for MHCP providers](#) webpage. Contact the MCO if you provide health care services to an MCO member and have questions about eligible services, billing, service authorization requirements or other information. If you need further assistance **after** contacting the MCO, call the MHCP Provider Call Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411. (pub. 2/19/20)

Training

Early Intensive Development and Behavior Intervention (EIDBI) autism services meeting and training schedules changed

We are making the following changes to upcoming meetings and training about autism services because of recent guidance to limit the spread of COVID-19.

- We are **canceled** the informational meeting about autism services on Mar. 24, 2020. It will be replaced by an **online-only** Mar. 26, 2020, meeting. See the updated DSD eList announcement [CANCELED: Informational meeting on March 24, 2020, about services for young people with autism for more information](#).
- We are moving the informational meeting about autism services on Mar. 26, 2020, to be **online only**. See the updated DSD eList announcement [UPDATED: Informational meeting on March 26, 2020, about services for young people with autism](#) for more information.
- We are moving the provider training session on Mar. 26, 2020, to be **online only**. We previously sent a WebEx link for this training, but we are changing to Zoom instead. See the updated DSD eList announcement [UPDATED: DHS to host training for autism providers on March 26, 2020](#) for the Zoom meeting link and more information.

Email ASD.DHS@state.mn.us if you have questions about the schedule changes. (pub. 3/20/20)

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) cancels in-person provider billing lab sessions through June and March webinars

MHCP Provider Training has decided to cancel in-person billing labs through June and March webinars. We want to help protect and keep Minnesotans safe from the spread of illness, and we want to help protect and keep our employees safe as well.

All billing labs for March 2020 have been cancelled. This includes all webinar and in-person sessions for the following billing labs:

- Acupuncture, Mar. 24, 2020
- Substance Use Disorder, Mar. 24, 2020
- Mental Health, Mar. 25, 2020
- Physician and Professional Services, Mar. 25, 2020

MHCP Provider Training will contact you if you have registered for a March billing lab and will give you the option to sign up for a future webinar session. We will offer billing labs via webinar beginning in April and we may begin offering in-person sessions again in the future.

MHCP Provider Training will notify you if you have registered for any in-person billing labs in April, May or June and will give you the option to sign up for an April, May or June webinar session. The notice will include a link to the [Online Registration](#) webpage.

Check back with the Provider news and updates webpage to read billing lab scheduling announcements. (pub. 3/19/20)

Free billing lab training available

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) offers free training for MHCP enrolled providers. Go to the [MHCP enrolled provider training](#) webpage to see the list of available training.

We have added new training sessions for the following service providers:

- Physician and professional
- Substance Use Disorder
- Nursing facility

Minnesota Provider Screening and Enrollment (MPSE) free training available

Minnesota Health Care Programs is providing free training for our MPSE online portal. We will provide training in person and online through a webinar.

See the [MPSE portal training](#) webpage for registration, brief online tutorials to help prepare you for class and more information. (pub. 2/5/20)

Additional information

- [Provider news and updates archive](#)
- [MHCP provider policies and procedures](#)
- [Latest Manual Revisions](#)
- [Grants and requests for proposals](#)

If you have questions about this information, call the MHCP Provider Call Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411.

Sign up to receive provider news and other MHCP notices through our [free provider email lists](#).